

SPECIAL ALERT



STATE OF

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

June 3, 2016 GSA 2016-20

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

High School Counselors

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SUBJECT: Cal Grant C Program Changes per Senate Bill 1028

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces changes to the Cal Grant C Program pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 1028 that was signed into legislation on September of 2014, amending Section 69439 of the Education Code.

Commission staff have been working in conjunction with the Commission's Cal Grant C Advisory Committee and other partnerships in the implementation of this new legislation. Beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, the following changes will be in place for the Cal Grant C Program:

- To ensure alignment with the State's economic needs, the <u>Cal Grant C</u> <u>Occupational List</u> has been updated and includes a total of 131 occupational training programs that meet the program criteria.
- The areas of occupational training were prioritized as specified in SB 1028. The new <u>Cal Grant C Priority Occupational List</u> includes 30 occupations that meet two of the following conditions:
 - High employer need or demand
 - High employment growth
 - High employment salary and wage projections
 - Occupations that are part of a well-articulated career pathway to a job providing economic security
- The <u>Cal Grant C Scoring Chart</u> has been revised to give special consideration to the social and economic circumstances of Cal Grant C applicants, and now includes the following three elements:
 - Family income and household size
 - Household status, including whether the student is a single parent or child of a single parent
 - Employment status of the applicant, giving greater weight to the long-term unemployed
- The Cal Grant C Supplement Form was revised to include question # 11 regarding the applicant's long-term unemployment status.

- In addition, Commission staff are working with the Employment Development Department, the California Community College's Workforce Services Branch and other public entities to publicize the Cal Grant C Program to California's long-term unemployed, and to inform Cal Grant C awardees of job search and placement services available to them.
- The Cal Grant C Supplement Forms will be sent to students on Monday, **June 6**. Cal Grant C Award offers will be processed as completed supplement forms are returned to the Commission.

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